APPENDIX 1

The "Report of the Proceedings of the Sixty-Sixth Convention of the American Federation of Labor held at San Francisco, California, October 6 to 16, inclusive 1947" published by direction of the American Federation of Labor, records the following:

"SUPPLEMENTAL REPORT OF THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL
(Vice-Presidents)

"In order that affiliated federal labor unions of the American Federation of Labor may fully exercise their right to qualify or not to qualify under the Taft-Hartley Act without in any way interfering with the right of any individual officer of a national or international union to follow the policy of his own organization in this regard, the Council recommends the following changes in the Constitution of the American Federation of Labor:

"Section 1 of Article V, which now reads:

" 'The officers of the Federation shall consist of a President, 13 Vice Presidents, and a Secretary-Treasurer, to be elected by the convention on the last day of the session, unless otherwise determined by the convention, and these officers shall be the Executive Council.'

shall be changed to read as follows:

" 'The officers of the Federation shall consist of a President and a Secretary-Treasurer, to be elected by the convention on the last day of the session, unless otherwise determined by the convention.' "

* * *

"A new Section 1 shall be inserted at the beginning of Article IX to read as follows:

" 'There shall be constituted an Executive Council consisting of thirteen (13) members who shall be elected by the convention on the last day of the session

unless otherwise determined by the convention. These thirteen (13) members of the Executive Council shall be designated and elected as the First Executive Council Member, the Second Executive Council Member and so forth.'"

* * *

"As stated in the report, the purpose of this proposed change in the constitution is to increase the freedom of decision of federal local unions with reference to their actions and policies concerning requirements of the Taft-Hartley Law. If adopted, this Constitutional revision would establish the President and Secretary-Treasurer of the American Federation of Labor as the only 'officers' of the Federation within the meaning of the Taft-Hartley Law. Such action would not, however, curtail or limit the responsibility and authority of the Executive Council.

"Your committee considered this matter most thoroughly. We recognize the untenable position in which the federal local unions are placed under existing circumstances and, therefore, recommend, with one vote, representing the United Mine Workers, dissenting, the adoption of this Constitutional revision." (Report of Proceedings, pp. 482, 483.)

The amendment was adopted by the vote of the full convention. (Report of Proceedings, p. 505.) In discussing the proposed amendment several of the delegates made it perfectly clear that the proposed amendment was nothing more than a subterfuge. For example, John L. Lewis, President, United Mine Workers of America, delegate and AFL Vice President, stated:

"Your Committee comes in here with a Constitutional amendment which, of course, I am trying to oppose—just for the record—that puts in the printed word of the Constitution the claim that the American Federation of Labor will only have two officers. Well, that is not true. The Federation will continue to have 15 officers, 13 members of some kind of an Executive Council and a President and Secretary, which makes

15—although your Constitution will say that you only have two officers. Of course, the Council is going to have some duty, and if they are not officers of the Federation what will they be?

"You know, to me that smacks of the Communist technique, to lie to escape responsibility. That is what that does; that's a lie." (Report of Proceedings, p. 491.)

* * *

". . . It is a matter of principle as to whether or not I should accept a position on a denatured governing body of this organization that will live a continuous lie as long as in the service, because that Board, whatever you call it, will be the officers of the American Federation of Labor, and it simply is not true that the American Federation of Labor will only have two officers." (Report of Proceedings, p. 492.)

Daniel J. Tobin, President, International Brotherhood of Teamsters, Chauffeurs, Warehousemen and Helpers of America, delegate and AFL Vice President stated:

"As a matter of fact, the question isn't of much importance. The changing of my title, or whoever will succeed me, from that of Vice President to Executive Council member means just exactly the same thing—no difference. We have the same powers and we will function just as before." (Report of Proceedings, p. 493.)

* * *

"Let me say to you the only reason this amendment is before you is because we could not get unanimous action within the Council.

* * *

". . . My judgment is that it is the duty of this convention to amend that constitution, because in substance the amendment does not mean anything, while it does mean something to a quarter of a million members who are dependent upon us to help them." (Report of Proceedings, p. 494.)

Delegate Cudahy (Federal Labor Union 22631) stated:

> "The question is on the supplemental report of the Executive Council to eliminate the titles or positions of vice-presidents, in order to enable 280,000 federal labor union members to avail themselves of the facilities of the National Labor Relations Board. That is a commendable action, I think. However, I want to pose this question. We are talking about a law passed by a reactionary Congress being administered by the illustrious Mr. Denham and the National Labor Relations Board. We propose here to engage in what I think is the most childish kind of subterfuge. I don't suppose Mr. Denham was selected to administer this Act because he graduated from grade school day before yesterday or something like that. I think Mr. Denham can see through subterfuge as well as any legal adviser that the Government might instruct to administer this Act, and on behalf of the Union I represent I would like to pose this question: if the convention adopts the report of the committee, is it a foregone conclusion that those federal labor unions will enjoy the facilities of the Board, or is there still remaining some question as to what the ruling of the Board might be under changed circumstances?" (Report of Proceedings, p. 499.)